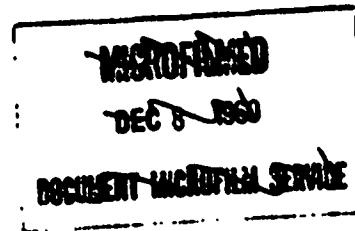
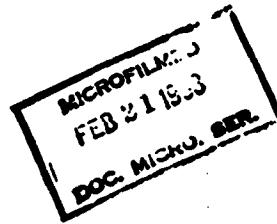


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26th January 1949.

POLISTINE/LEVANT STATES.

Political.

Haj Amin al-HUSSEINI and Arab

Nationalist Movements.

1. INTRODUCTION.

Haj Amin ~~al-HUSSEINI~~, ignoring the appointment of a rival Mufti of JERUSALEM, has continued by agitation and intrigue to press the Arab States for a stiffening in their attitude towards the Palestine problem. In the autumn of 1948 he appeared to be making some headway; the influence of his enemy King ABDULLAH had waned and his chief military opponent Fawzi QAWUQJI had been ignominiously defeated. But by the end of the year it was generally plain to the Arabs, Governments and populations alike, that no die-hard nationalistic policy would now save Palestine. Haj Amin found himself obliged to tone down his propaganda and there are signs at present of his having adopted a more realistic attitude.

2. Possible Recognition of King Abd. A.H.'s
Claims.

(a) A well-placed source reports that at the time of the Jewish offensive in the Negeb (mid-December 1948), King FAISAL had a confidential talk

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with Haj Amin. The King stated that the Egyptian army was offering resistance simply for reasons of prestige; and that if 'Iraq could not be induced to send reinforcements defeat was certain. Egypt might feel impelled to withdraw from the Arab League. Haj Amin was principally perturbed lest the Egyptians should, in desperation, invoke the 1936 treaty and call on Great Britain for help.

(b) At the end of December Haj Amin delegated Kamel HADDAD, Arab Higher Executive representative in BEIRUT to convey a message to SULH (the Lebanese Prime Minister) for transmission to the Regent of 'Iraq. The message stated that the ~~Arab Higher Executive~~ and the huffi himself were ready to recognise King Abdallah as ruler of the Arab parts of Palestine, provided that Transjordan and 'Iraq both went to the assistance of the Egyptian army. SULH promised to convey the message.

(c) Kamel HADDAD was also to request the Lebanese and Syrian governments to boycott the UNITED NATIONS' Conciliation Commission, then due to begin making arrangements for an armistice between the Arabs and the Jews.

3. The NABLUS CONNECTION

(p) Through Dr. Mustafa BUSHNAQ or QADIO, Haj Amin has been in touch with Suliman ~~QANOON~~ Mayor/...

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Mayor of NABLUS, who presided over a conference of Palestinian Arabs at NABLUS on 28th December. This conference had approved the idea of the amalgamation of Palestine with Transjordan as first step to a firm union of the Arab countries, but had called for the prosecution of the war against the Jews. HAJJAH is reported to have reached a measure of agreement with TUKH over the general tenor of the Conference's decision.

4. RAOUF B. KADDOUSSI IN THE LEVANT SETTLEMENT

About 10th January, RAOUF B. KADDOUSSI, one of the Mufti's chief assistants, reached BEIRUT from QAZAQQ. The object of his visit was to organise in the LEVANT and in NABLUS small meetings of leading Palestinians loyal to the mufti. These meetings would propagate appeals to the Arab States calling for a resumption of the struggle in Palestine and stressing the need to consider the views of the ARAB HIGHER EXECUTIVE in any settlement of the Palestine question.

5. HUSSAIN AND THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD

Rafiq A. B. BIDI, an official of the Palestine Arab GAZA "Government", and a member of the IKHWAN AL MUSLIMIN (Moslem Brotherhood) went to BEIRUT on 10th January to investigate whether the Brotherhood's influence had increased or diminished in the Levant States since the recent murder of the

Egyptian.....

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Egyptian Prime Minister, Mahmud Fathmi AL-NOKRISHI was shot. According to L.B.BIDI, this murder has had the effect of raising H.I.J.Amin's stature in the imagination of the Egyptian public, who ascribe the "coup" to his instigation.

(b) The ARAB HIGHER EXECUTIVE is reported to be placing great hopes in the Moslem Brotherhood for the furthering of its plans.

(c) L.B.BIDI organised a conference of leading Palestinians, who met in AMMAN on January 17th to pass resolutions echoing the general tone of H.I.J.Amin's propaganda.

6. THE QJUMIYIN (Popular Nationalists).

(a) The ARAB HIGHER EXECUTIVE in CAIRO has been perturbed at the recent activities in the Levant States of the HIZB AL-QJIDI, AL-QJUMI (National Call Party), the Lebanese fraction of the international QJUMIYIN.

(b) This Party recently sent invitations to a number of political parties in the Arab countries to review in common the current problems of the Arab world. Favourable replies were received from the following:

(i)	HIZB AL-QJIDI (National Party).	} of of Arab Renaissance.
(ii)	HIZB AL-BUTHI AL-QJUBI (Party	
(iii)	HIZB AL-SHAB (Popular Party).	} Syria. } of Iraq.
(iv)	HIZB AL-ISTIGHLAL (Independence Party) of 'IRAQ.	

(c)/.....

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(c) Representatives of these parties attended a preliminary meeting at BEIRUT on 3rd January 1949. T.ki-ed-Din SULH, a leader of the National Call, suggested the formation of a Union of Parties to bring concord to the Arab world. The idea in general met with approval, but the participation of the Syrian National Party, held responsible for the mismanagement of their country's politics and economy, was rejected. A sub-committee set up to compose this difference reported after a short meeting that no attempt should be made to institute a union of parties such as contemplated until progressive nationalist parties had been formed in Egypt and Transjordan, and until the Lebanese JULYIN movement should have grown in strength.

7. NEW PRO-ARDALIYAH PARTY.

Palestinian Arabs in Transjordan have recently founded a new party named HIZB AL-ARAB AL-ARDALIYAH (Arab Liberal Party), which favours King ABDALLAH. It is led by ~~Abdullah~~ AL-KHILIL, a former magistrate of HAIFA, who has been active lately against the Mufti and by ~~Wadib~~ A.L.H., a Christian lawyer of RAMALLAH. The Mufti's strong-arm men in BEIRUT and DAIR-SOUR are stated to be planning to assassinate AL-KHILIL and A.L.H. should they visit the Levant States.

8. FUNDS FROM TUNISIA.

Habib ~~T.M.R.~~ a representative of the

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Tunisian J.D. (Liberal) party recently handed to H. J. Min a donation to the value of £12,000 sterling.

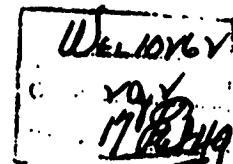
9. PIQUETED IN TURKEY AND IRAN.

H. J. Min is planning to send his henchman ~~Abdel~~ SHUAI on propaganda tour of Turkey and Iran. SHUAI is a Palestinian nationalist who has recently completed a similar mission among governmental circles of Iraq and the Levant States. He is to probe the extent of popular feeling against the Jews in Turkey and Iran, with a view to obtaining support for H. J. Min should the U.S. States give up the struggle.

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* HUSA/NI, HK: Amin
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Subj: Arab Agents and Palestinian Nationalists

The attached information, dated January, comes from Arab sources either belonging to or in touch with the PAFI's entourage. As such, they are liable to exaggerate the PAFI's importance.



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